REMARKS

Before the Examiner takes up the present application for examination, Applicants respectfully request entry of the present Preliminary Amendment and consideration of the newly presented claims. Applicants have canceled claims 1-43. Applicants present herein claims 44-63. Claims 44-63 are currently pending. No new matter has been added.

Support for the newly presented claims can be found throughout the specification as filed, including at least at the Summary of the Invention, at page 7, lines 3-9, at page 9, lines 3-10, at page 16, lines 6-9, and the claims as originally filed.

Summary

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: June 5, 2006

MTS:kf

Mark T. Skoog Reg. No. 40,178

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